(b) whether it is also a fact that auto manufacturers share fuel economy data for care models at the time of certification of new vehicles with Government; and

(c) if so, the details of information furnished by auto manufacturers with regard to fuel economy data of Government pertaining to all vehicles between 2000 and 2007, year-wise manufacturer-wise and category of vehicle-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The basis on which the Centre for Science and Environment has reached the conclusion is not known to the Government. However, the vehicles manufactured in the year 2002 complied with Bharat Stage-II norms whereas the vehicles manufactured after 2005 comply with Bharat Stage-III norms which are stricter compared to Bharat Stage-II norms.

(b) The auto manufacturers do not share fuel economy data for car models of new vehicles with the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Maritime Universities

1991. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Maritime Industry is facing shortage of trained manpower;

(b) whether it is proposed to set up Maritime Universities to overcome this acute shortage of manpower; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating the locations where such Maritime Universities would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has established this year the Indian Maritime University in Chennai with its campuses at Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and Visakhapatnam.

Planning for sea satellites

1992. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO plans sea satellites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it would also be used for navigational purposes, identifying fish-rich blocks and during floods/disasters as well;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent this would help to pre-warn the people about cyclones, Tsunami and act as a safety shield for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s plan for sea satellites comprises of Oceansat-2. Oceansat-2 will carry Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM) for studying distribution of chlorophyll and suspended sediments; Ku band Scatterometer for studying wind vector and speed; and Radio Occultation Sounder for Atmosphere (ROSA) for studying vertical profiles of humidity, temperature and pressure of the atmosphere.

(c) and (d) This satellite would not be of use for navigational purposes and during floods/disasters. The data from OCM sensor of Oceansat-2 will facilitate study of the distribution and movement of chlorophyll in sea-waters. Chlorophyll, being the food for fish will facilitate identifying fish schools and fish-rich blocks.

(e) Oceansat-2 satellite is not intended for pre-warning the people about cyclones and Tsunami.

Village Resource Centres

1993. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal that at least 250 villages in the country will have satellite linked Village Resource Centres taking the benefits of space technology to the rural people;

(b) if so, the villages identified for this purpose, State-wise;

(c) the funds earmarked for each village, State-wise; and

(d) the number of virtual class rooms functioning in the country as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 466 Village Resource Centres (VRCs) have been set up so far by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in association with reputed NGOs, Trusts and Government Departments. State-wise details are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 214 Annexure No.....]

(c) The cost of setting up one Village Resource Centre (VRC) is about Rs. 4.50 lakhs. The building, manpower and other facilities for housing the VRC are provided by the associating/partner agencies.

(d) The number of virtual classrooms functioning in the country (under the tele-education programme) is around 33,000.

Chandrayaan-I

1994. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of 'Chandrayaan-I' launching to the Moon;